

# Claims

- [c1] 1.A connector axial compression tool having a lever end and a cable end, comprising:  
a body;  
a cable clamp coupled to the cable end of a cavity formed in the body;  
a cradle slidably mounted within the cavity supporting a shoulder clamp;  
a lever mechanism coupled to the cradle and slidably mounted through the body; and  
a handle pivotally attached to the body and the lever mechanism operable to actuate axial movements of the cradle.
- [c2] 2.The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cable clamp is removably attached.
- [c3] 3.The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cable clamp is biased into a closed position.
- [c4] 4.The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the cable clamp is biased into a closed position by a spring.
- [c5] 5.The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cradle has the form of a box with an open side.

- [c6] 6.The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cradle has the form of a U-shaped bracket.
- [c7] 7.The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cradle is removably attached to the cable end of the lever mechanism.
- [c8] 8.The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the shoulder clamp is retained by slots formed in the cradle.
- [c9] 9.The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the shoulder clamp is removably attached to the cable end of the cradle.
- [c10] 10.The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the shoulder clamp is formed in the cable end of the cradle.
- [c11] 11.The apparatus of claim 1, further including a clamp arm hingeably attached to the shoulder clamp.
- [c12] 12.The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the shoulder clamp and the clamp arm are retainable in a closed position by a magnetic contact.
- [c13] 13.The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the shoulder clamp and the clamp arm are retainable in a closed position by one of a clasp, a latch, a pin, a spring, a screw, and a clip.
- [c14] 14.The apparatus of claim 1, further including a mounting hole in the body for mounting the compression tool

to a desired surface.

- [c15] 15.The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cable clamp is adapted to abut the cable end of a cable clamp sleeve of the connector.
- [c16] 16.The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cable clamp forms an inner diameter that is less than a cable clamp sleeve diameter of the connector and greater than a cable diameter.
- [c17] 17.The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the shoulder clamp is adapted to retain a compression shoulder of the connector.
- [c18] 18.The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cradle is adapted to support a connector body of the connector without causing interference to a connector interface of the connector.
- [c19] 19.A method for axially compressing a connector by a compression shoulder on a connector body against a cable clamp sleeve of the connector, comprising the steps of:
  - positioning the compression shoulder of the connector body onto an axially movable shoulder clamp of a compression tool;
  - abutting the cable clamp sleeve against a cable clamp of

the compression tool; and  
actuating the compression tool to axially compress the  
shoulder clamp and the cable clamp toward one another.

[c20] 20.A method of manufacturing an axial compression tool  
having a lever end and a cable end, comprising the steps  
of:

forming a body;

coupling a cable clamp to the cable end of a cavity

formed in the body;

slidably mounting a cradle supporting a shoulder clamp  
within the cavity;

coupling a lever mechanism to the cradle and slidably  
mounting it through the body; and

pivotaly attaching a handle to the body and the lever  
mechanism operable to engage axial movements of the  
cradle.

[c21] 21.A connector axial compression tool having a lever  
end and a cable end, comprising:

a body;

a cable clamp having an inner diameter that is less than  
a cable clamp sleeve diameter of the connector and  
greater than a cable diameter coupled to the cable end  
of a cavity formed in the body;

a cradle slidably mounted within the cavity supporting a  
shoulder clamp;

a lever mechanism coupled to the cradle and slidably mounted through the body;

a handle pivotally attached to the body and the lever mechanism operable to actuate axial movements of the cradle;

a clamp arm hingeably attached to the shoulder clamp;

a magnetic contact adapted to retain the shoulder clamp and the clamp arm in a closed position; and

a mounting hole in the body for mounting the compression tool to a desired surface;

the cradle adapted to support a connector body of the connector without interference with a connector interface of the connector.